

Claims:

1 (currently amended) A lock adapted to be received in a wear member for holding the wear member to a structure of an excavator subjected to wear, the lock comprising:

a body adapted to be received in an opening of the wear member, the body including a front wall for opposing a bearing wall of the structure, a rear wall for opposing a bearing wall of the wear member, and a hole extending through the body and opening in the front and rear walls, the hole having threads;

a threaded member threaded into the hole for adjustment in the body so as to selectively expand expanding the lock ~~to and thereby~~ tighten the mounting of the wear member on the structure~~[[.]] the threaded member being received in the hole;~~

a resilient member compressed by tightening of the threaded member to apply a continuous biasing force against the wear member and impede impeding loosening of the threaded member; and

a retainer movable between a locking position to hold releasably holding the body in the opening of the wear member and a release position to permit removal of the lock from the opening in the wear member.

2. (original) A lock in accordance with claim 1 in which the resilient member is received in the hole and advanced forward into contact with the structure by the threaded member and compressed between the threaded member and the structure so that the lock applies a continuous biasing force to the wear member.

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3. (original) A lock in accordance with claim 2 in which the resilient member further includes an elastomeric body and a hard shell fixed to the elastomeric body to contact the structure and protect the elastomeric body.

4. (original) A lock in accordance with claim 1 in which the resilient member is substantially wider than the threaded member.

5. (original) A lock in accordance with claim 1 wherein the body includes an opening with threads, and wherein the retainer includes a threaded shank received in the opening and adjustable to project from one surface of the body to hold the lock in the wear member and to retract within the one surface of the body to permit removal of the lock.

6. (original) A lock in accordance with claim 5 wherein the hole and the opening are substantially parallel.

7. (original) A lock in accordance with claim 1 wherein the body includes an arcuate passage and the retainer includes a latch that moves in the arcuate passage.

8. (original) A lock in accordance with claim 7 in which the latch includes an elastomeric member and a hard plug fixed to the elastomeric member, wherein the plug is movable to project beyond one surface of the body and to retract within the one surface of the body.

9. (original) A lock in accordance with claim 7, in which the passage includes a shoulder and the latch has a ledge that engages the shoulder to releasably prevent retraction of the latch.

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10. (currently amended) A lock adapted to be received in a wear member for holding the wear member to a structure of an excavator subjected to wear, the lock comprising (i) a body having an elongate, arcuate configuration with a concave, curved side surface facing in a first direction and a convex, curved side surface facing in a second direction opposite to the first direction, (ii) a movable take-up element projecting from the body in a third direction transverse to the first and second directions for tightening the connection of the wear member on the structure, and (iii) a latch retainer projecting from the body for releasably retaining the lock in the wear member.

11. (currently amended) A lock in accordance with claim 10 in which the body defines a longitudinal axis generally parallel to the concave and convex curved surfaces, includes a first end and a second end at opposite ends of the longitudinal axis, wherein the body and is wider at the second end than at the first end.

12. (original) A lock in accordance with claim 11 in which the body gradually tapers from the second end to the first end.

13. (currently amended) A lock in accordance with claim 10 wherein the take-up element and the latch retainer are each a resilient member.

14. (original) A lock adapted to be received in a wear member for holding the wear member to a structure of an excavator subjected to wear, the lock comprising:

a body including a front wall for opposing a bearing wall of the structure, a rear wall for opposing a bearing wall of the wear member, and a threaded hole extending through the body and opening in the front and rear walls; and

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a threaded member received in the hole and selectively projecting beyond the front wall of the body to expand the lock and thereby tighten the mounting of the wear member on the structure, the threaded member having a thread deformation forward of the front wall to prevent loosening of the threaded member.

Claims 15-31 (canceled).

32. (currently amended) A lock for holding a wear member to a structure of an excavator subjected to wear, the lock comprising:

a body adapted to be received in an opening of the wear member, the body including a first wall for opposing a bearing wall of the structure, a second wall for opposing a bearing wall of the wear member, and a threaded hole extending through the body and opening in the first and second walls;

a threaded member movably received in the threaded hole in the body to tighten the mounting of the wear member on the structure; and

a resilient member axially aligned with the threaded member between the threaded member and the structure to tighten the mounting of the wear member and to impede the impending loosening of the threaded member.

Claims 33 and 34 (canceled).

35. (currently amended) A lock in accordance with claim ~~[[34]]~~ 32 further including a shell overlying the resilient member to engage said one of the bearing walls.

36. (currently amended) A lock in accordance with claim ~~[[32]]~~ 35 wherein the resilient member is an elastomer.

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37. (previously presented) A lock in accordance with claim 32 further including a retainer releasably holding the body in the opening of the wear member.

36. (currently amended) A lock adapted to be received in a wear member for holding the wear member to a structure of an excavator subjected to wear, the lock comprising a body having an arcuate configuration with a concave, curved side surface facing in a first direction and a convex, curved side surface facing in a second direction opposite to the first direction, and a take-up element projecting from the body in a third direction transverse to the first and second directions for tightening the connection of the wear member on the structure.

39. (previously presented) A lock in accordance with claim 38 wherein the take-up element includes a resilient member.

40. (previously presented) A lock in accordance with claim 39 wherein the resilient member is an elastomer.

41. (previously presented) A lock in accordance with claim 38 further including a detent for holding the lock in the wear member during use.

42. (previously presented) A lock in accordance with claim 41 wherein the take-up element and the detent each include a resilient member.

43. (previously presented) A lock in accordance with claim 38 wherein the body has a narrow, elongate configuration.

44. (previously presented) A lock in accordance with claim 43 wherein the body includes a pair of opposite ends and gradually narrows from one end to the other.

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45. (new) A lock adapted to be received in a wear member for holding the wear member to a structure of an excavator subjected to wear, the lock comprising:

a body having an elongate, arcuate configuration with a concave, curved side surface facing in a first direction, a convex, curved side surface facing in a second direction opposite to the first direction, a longitudinal axis generally parallel to the concave and convex curved surfaces, and a first end and a second end at opposite ends of the longitudinal axis with the body being wider at the second end than at the first end; and

a movable take-up element projecting from the body for tightening the connection of the wear member on the structure.

46. (new) A lock in accordance with claim 45 further including a retainer for releasably retaining the lock in the wear member.

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